

WAR NEWS.

A Washington paper of last evening states that heavy firing was heard from the vicinity of Fairfax Station yesterday morning, which probably proceeded from a renewal of the previous engagement. The same paper states that the Confederates have disappeared from the line of the Orange and Manassas railroad, but yesterday morning occupied a hill at Lewinsburg, twelve miles from Washington, and four miles from Little Falls bridge. The Confederate force which advanced on Manassas is estimated to have been thirty thousand strong, composed of Gen. Jackson's army corps and Gen. Stuart's cavalry.

The latest advices from Cumberland Gap report that, on the 23d inst., the Federal troops were in excellent health and spirits, and had provisions enough to last sixty days. It is believed that the troops can hold the Gap against any force that can be sent against them. The number of Confederates on the western side of the Gap is estimated at from twenty to thirty thousand.

It is reported that the Confederates have evacuated Chattanooga and moved toward Knoxville, one hundred and eighteen miles distant in a northwesterly direction.

A dispatch from Louisville states that a band of two hundred of Morgan's men entered the village of Glasgow, Ky., yesterday, and seized the provost marshal. The remainder of his force was moving on the town.

Gen. Rosecrans arrived at Louisville yesterday, and took command of the post. Fortifications commanding the city have been erected.

On Monday last, near Bloomfield, Missouri, a Federal force of one hundred and thirty men attacked a guerilla band, three hundred and fifty strong, and routed them, killing twenty and wounding many.

BRIEF PARAGRAPHS.—"Mulum in Parvo."—At the last accounts, the Confederate Congress was discussing the subject of increasing the Southern army, and the most proper means to accomplish that object.—The Northern papers all say that it would be much better to remove the present restrictions with regard to the publication of army matters, after results are effected.—The Washington National Republican thinks that to couple colonization with emancipation will be fatal to the latter, and it urges the setting free of slaves "belonging to disloyal persons."—The Washington papers announce the rapid arrival of new troops from the North, in that city.—The New York papers are in receipt of Richmond papers as regularly as if they came by mail.—The London Times is quite caustic in its review of Mr. Seward's letter which elicited Earl Russell's dispatch, denying the correctness of Mr. Seward's statements.—It is said that Queen Victoria is to visit next month Belgium, and the late Prince Albert's birth-place at Gotha.—Mr. Thackeray's novel, "Philip," is not regarded with peculiar favor by the London critics.—It is said that there are accommodations for 3,000 sick and wounded at the Episcopal Seminary, near Alexandria.

The recent advices from England represent the great distress in the manufacturing districts as increasing to an alarming extent. Every day seems to increase the pressure and diminish the number of mills affording even partial employment.

A LATE BATTLE.

[Special Correspondence of the Washington Republican.]

ALEXANDRIA, August 29.—This has been an exciting day in this city. The constant arrival and departure of troops throughout the day, the bustle and activity about our wharves and in the river in front, the marching and countermarching in our rear, and the innumerable flying and exciting rumors, have conspired to keep our city up to the fever point all the time. Amid the mass of information of all kinds, it is almost impossible to get at the real events which are now transpiring within only about twenty miles of us—events which may tell on the future of our country with more power than we at present are aware of. I have tried to sift from the confused mass what particulars I deem most reliable.

I saw about 25 of the wounded of the New Jersey brigade, who were in the attack on the Confederates at Manassas. They arrived here this morning, and were sent at once to the hospitals. They came all the way from the battle field on foot. From them I learn that General Taylor, who commanded the brigade, was shot, and that both legs were taken off. He was brought to Alexandria. These men represent the action as terrific while it lasted. It was understood that the brigade was ordered to hold the bridge across Bull Run, but the party in command supposing that the fortifications at Manassas were held by a small party of guerillas, ordered the brigade up the hill for the purpose of clearing out the enemy. Before reaching the fortifications, our force discovered that we had fallen on an ambuscade. The Confederates opened fire from three batteries, and soon displayed a large force of infantry and cavalry, estimated at twenty thousand or more.

The New Jersey boys stood the fire manfully, and returned it as well as they could, but having no artillery support, and being subjected to a murderous cross-fire by an overpowering force, they were obliged to retreat to the bridge, which they succeeded in crossing just in time to save being cut off and hemmed in. They were obliged to leave their dead and severely wounded on the field. Our force is estimated at 1,500. Our loss cannot be accurately stated, but it is heavy, nearly every company reporting from 15 to 40 loss. The bridge was immediately destroyed by our force, which held the Confederates in check for a while, and then commenced the retreat, during which the small brigade, now fearfully cut up, was harassed during the entire retreat from Bull Run to Anandale, by cavalry and guerilla parties. A number of shots were fired at them even at the latter place, only about six miles from us.

The negro colonization project seems likely to encounter difficulties at the outset. A Washington dispatch to the New York Times says: "The minister from Costa Rica and the representative of one of the other South American republics are to have an interview with Mr. Seward on the subject. They insist that the parties turning over the land at Chiriqui to our government have no legal claim to it; and further represent that, while they gladly welcome emigrants from every quarter, and of every color, and accord them every political and social advantage, they must object to the establishment of colonies on their territory under the protection of a foreign flag."

At St. Louis, August 27th, the extensive wholesale drug and chemical establishment of Z. F. Wetzel & Co. was totally destroyed by fire. The loss amounted to \$100,000, on which there was an insurance of \$45,000.

The fleet of tea ships from China, looked for for several days, are beginning to arrive at New York on an average about one per day.

The hospitals at Falls Church have been discontinued, and the sick and wounded, numbering 1,600, removed to an encampment near by, which has been designated as "Camp Hammond."

There is talk of sending Major Gen. Canwallader to New Orleans, in place of General Butler.

The Washington Star says:—"The miserable apologies for officers, who loaf about our hotels, or so unblashingly saunter about our streets gallanting the painted Jezebels with which the city is stocked, should either be sent to their commands in double-quick time, or should have their shoulder straps stripped from them."

Gen. McClellan yesterday assumed command of the army of Virginia. General Burnside is to command the army of the Potomac, and General Pope to command the army of the Rappahannock.

Gen. Butler has issued an order emancipating every slave giving information that shall discover the "concealed arms of his or her master."

The N. Y. World says that one of General Pope's great faults is, unreliability of his statements, and that Mr. Lincoln has said so.

Persons who were attached to the staff of General Pope, and who were taken prisoners but who escaped at Warrenton, say that the joy manifested by the citizens of Warrenton upon the return of Stuart's Cavalry with their trophies exceeded all bounds. The population of the village turned out en masse. Ladies ran up to the soldiers and embraced them, although many of them were entire strangers.—The only bell left in the town rang out loud and clear, and blended its music with the cheers of the thronging villagers.

John Ross, the Chief of the Cherokee Nation, and a retinue of fifty persons, are en route for Washington, where he goes to lay his grievances before the President, and to urge the sending of a body of troops to the territory. A dispatch from Des Moines, says that arrivals from Fort Dodge bring reports of the destruction of Springfield on the Minnesota State line, by the Indians. Emmet and Dickinson counties are reported in danger, and the settlers are fleeing South to Fort Dodge and other places for safety.

A dispatch appeared in a Philadelphia paper calculated to wound unnecessarily the feelings of the family and friends of General Bohlen. It was stated that Mr. George Ziegler, while conveying the corpse in a buggy was attacked by guerrillas, and fled, leaving the body in their hands. The facts are these: Mr. Ziegler employed Messrs. Brown & Alexander, government embalmers, to obtain the body. They intrusted the business to a couple of subordinates, whose vehicle, while on the way to the spot, became entangled in a column of army wagons and was wrecked, they escaping on their horses. Mr. Ziegler was not with the party, and the body has never been taken from the grave where it was first buried.

The steamer Great Eastern met with an accident while coming into Long Island Sound, in the neighborhood of Montauk Point, by touching upon a sharp rock, that opened a leak into her stern compartment, through which the water made so fast after she arrived at her anchorage that it was soon apparent that she was settling by the stern, notwithstanding the action of the pumps.